

# Ω THE OMEGA CODE – 20 Part Series

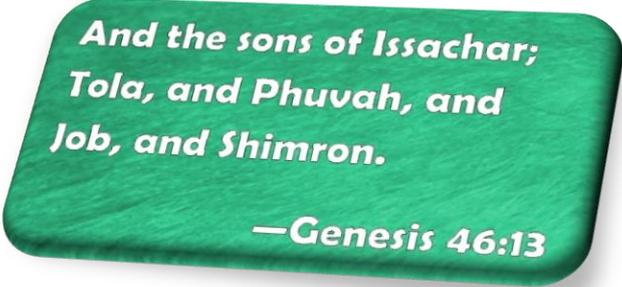
## SESSION 12 JUDGEMENT OF JOB

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The story of Job and his virtue of patience is proverbial. Who was Job? Who recorded and wrote this amazing account of a man's personal calamities? Why did he suffer? When did he live? What is its lesson? These and many more questions will be answered in this lesson.

### CONTROVERSY ABOUT JOB

Over the many years of ministry, various arguments as to the authenticity of Job and his sufferings have been considered. Some believe that Job (pronounced Jobe as in Lobe) was a mythical character. The content and support of Scripture settle this controversy. Job 1:1 tells us that there was a "man" called Job. Genesis 46:13 refers to Job as a son of Issachar, son of Jacob.



*And the sons of Issachar;  
Tola, and Phuvah, and  
Job, and Shimron.*

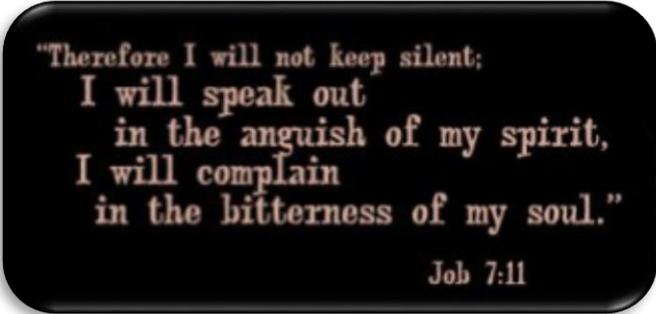
*—Genesis 46:13*

### CHARACTER OF JOB

There are 4 virtues or characteristics of Job that gives us insight into the type of man he was. Job 1:1 calls him perfect, upright, feared God and eschewed evil.

1. Perfect in Hebrew is "tam" which means sincerity or integrity.
2. Upright in Hebrew is "yashar" which means righteous.
3. Feared God in Hebrew is "yare" which means respectful and reverence for God.
4. Eschewed evil is "suwr" which means one who turned, declined or shunned evil.

### CALAMITY ON JOB



*"Therefore I will not keep silent;  
I will speak out  
in the anguish of my spirit,  
I will complain  
in the bitterness of my soul."*

*Job 7:11*

In Job 1:6 we are told of a celestial conference of spirit agents or angels. The Son's of God are angels as in Genesis 6 and Job 2:1. In Parliament you have a ruling party and the opposition parties debating on issues of state. It seems that somewhere in the universe an audience or conference similar to Parliament,

debate issues of life. The dialogue in Job 1:7-12 supports such a viewpoint.

Satan accuses God of protecting Job. Satan attacks Job's virtues and proposes that Job only serves God because of material status and worldly goods. Job becomes the object lesson for all who suffer. Those who endure affliction and suffering send a testimony to their peers and the spirit world that serving God is not subject or dependent on conditions. Job loses his wealth and his health as a series of calamities play havoc with his life. He loses his sons

and daughters, including his servants and wealth, through invasions and plunder. A hurricane and lightening storm wrecks his life. Today such acts are called “Acts of God” and so it was considered, in ancient times, to be a judgement. Remember that Satan is the power of the air – Ephesians 2:1-3.

### **JOB’S DIALOGUE WITH HIS FRIENDS**

Job’s three friends came and saw his condition. They sat and wept for seven days. When Job cursed the day of his birth, (as did Jeremiah later, Jer. 20:17), his friends began to speak to him. They expressed many pious truths, but their main emphasis was that Job must have sinned, and it was because of this that God chastised him in this way; therefore he should repent and put away his sin. Job defended his innocence, assuring them that he had no known sin for which he should be thus punished; however, he admitted that he may have sins of which he was not aware.



“My servant Job shall pray for you.”—Job xliii. 8.

Job 13:15 reads, *“Though he slay me, yet will I trust in Him, but I will maintain (defend) mine own ways before Him”*.

### **COMFORTERS – JOB 2:7-13**

Job’s condition of boils may have been the result of severe stress and a low immune system. His wife was of no comfort to him and urged him to curse God and die. But Job kept his faith despite the hardship. Job’s three friends failed to comfort him. When Job was at his lowest and very despondent, his friends accused him of some secret sin to deserve such punishment. Job wished that we was not born – Job 3:3

1. Eliphaz says Job is reaping what he sowed.
2. Bildad condemns Job and defends God. Bildad promotes the “karma” theory that bad things happen to bad people – Job 8:20.
3. Zophar also heaped sorrow not comfort on Job. Zophar declared that Job has some huge hidden sin and that’s why God was punishing him – Job 11:20.

Job retorts that his friends are like “quack” doctors – Job 13:4. Job pleads his innocence before God and attempts to reason with God, in terms of his suffering. Read Job 14:1-14.

*“If a tree is cut down it might still sprout new life from the root”* verse 7.

## CONSOLATION

Job was not impressed with his friend's harsh and unfair accusations. It was hard enough struggling with pain but to be nagged at and condemned was evil – Job 19:1-29. Job wanted his experience to be recorded (most likely Moses wrote the Job chronicle) – verse 23.

**The strength of Job's faith is God – Job 19:25.**

## CONCLUSION

Job is vindicated – Job 42:10 – 17

*"<sup>10</sup>After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD restored his fortunes and gave him twice as much as he had before. <sup>11</sup>All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came and ate with him in his house. They comforted and consoled him over all the trouble the LORD had brought on him, and each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring. <sup>12</sup>The LORD blessed the latter part of Job's life more than the former part. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen and a thousand donkeys. <sup>13</sup>And he also had seven sons and three daughters. <sup>14</sup>The first daughter he named Jemimah, the second Keziah and the third Keren-Happuch. <sup>15</sup>Nowhere in all the land were there found women as beautiful as Job's daughters, and their father granted them an inheritance along with their brothers. <sup>16</sup>After this, Job lived a hundred and forty years; he saw his children and their children to the fourth generation. <sup>17</sup>And so Job died, an old man and full of years".*

SUFFERING IN THE BIBLICAL TRADITION

**"What is my strength, that I should wait?  
And what is my end, that I should be patient?"**  
—Job 6:11



**W**HY GOD ALLOWS PEOPLE to suffer is one of the Bible's greatest mysteries. There are no obvious answers. Our own suffering, or that of someone we love, is unbearable only in those dark days when—as the Bible puts it—God hides his face. At such times we cry out, "How



much longer?" We may even exclaim, "Why me?" The Bible says that we will overcome suffering if God answers us. It also says that he *does* hear us and that if we are patient and wait for him, he will reveal to each of us a way to understand and transcend our suffering.

## QUESTIONS

1. What did Job call his three friends? (Job 16:2)

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2. Bad choices lead to grave consequences. In terms of Job's suffering , what was the reason? (See Romans 8:28 and Philippians 1:12).

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3. Was Job a real person or is his story an allegory?

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4. What lessons have you learnt from Job's challenge?

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5. For your contemplation and consideration:

Why do the innocent suffer?